



Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council

Legislative Office Building Room 3000, Hartford CT 06106
(860) 240-0346 Info Line (860) 240-8329 FAX (860) 240-5306

www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC

Co-Chairs: Rep. Mike Demicco, Pat Rehmer & Beresford Wilson
Meeting Summary: May 8, 2019

1E LOB

Next Meeting is Wednesday, June 12, 2019 @ 2 PM in 1E LOB

Attendees: Pat Rehmer (Co-Chair), Beresford Wilson (Co-Chair), David Borzellino, Terri DiPietro, Dr. Alice Forrester, Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr., Heather Gates, Dr. Steven Girelli, Bill Halsey (DSS), Dr. Charles Herrick, Jill Holmes-Brown, Susan Kelley, Barbara Lanza (Jud), Dr. Sabooh Mubbashar, Maureen O'Neill-Davis, Kelly Phenix, Dr. Bert Plant (Beacon), Katie Rock-Burns (DDS), Galo Rodriguez, Erika Sharillo (Beacon), Dr. Stephney Springer (DCF), Dr. Bollepalli Subbarao, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Lori Szczygiel (Beacon), Meryl Tom (DPH), Sabrina Trocchi, Mark Vanacore (DMHAS), Jeff Vanderploeg, and Rod Winstead (DSS)

BHP OC Administration

Co-Chair Pat Rehmer convened the meeting at 2:04 PM, welcomed everyone and introductions were made. She then asked for public comments. Hearing none, Pat asked Council Members if they reviewed the April 2019 summary and requested a motion to accept it. Dr. Steve Girelli made the motion and it was seconded by Kelly Phenix. All voted to accept the April 2019 summary as written with no nays. Pat then asked each member to give a presentation of their organizations and get back to BHPOC Staff, David Kaplan on a date when they can present to the Council.

Action Items

None

Review of Available Data on Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorders: Inpatient Hospital Detox and Inpatient Freestanding Detox- Erika Sharillo (Beacon) and Dr. Bert Plant (Beacon)



BHPOC5-8-19Beacon
AlcoholAbuseData.pd

Dr. Bert Plant (Beacon) said in light of the opioid crisis sometimes the focus is not on alcohol use disorder but alcohol is a slower and more of a silent killer and alcohol related deaths contribute to early mortality and we need to continue to look at this because rates are going up. For full details of the report, see above icon.

Discussion

Comments from members:

- Dr. Charles Herrick talked about how the community Care Teams (CCT) associated with Danbury and Middlesex Hospitals work very well with Alcohol Related Disorders
- Dr. Bert Plant said that by using zip codes to track needs and disparity, data becomes a factor in outcomes
- Kelly Phenix stated that Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) should be more associated with recovery instead of treatment
- Co-Chair Pat Rehmer commented that Connecticut is a recovery oriented state
- Bill Halsey (DSS) noted that substance abuse disorders covers everything
- Meryl Tom (DPH) remarked that the report raises our consciousness' that it is not only opioids that are abused
- Janine Sullivan-Wiley thought that this is a tremendous failure of the level of care, there must be a better way to deliver care
- Co-Chair Beresford Wilson thanked Erika and Bert for the presentation

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Agency Reports:

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services –Mark Vanacore

Mark Vanacore in place of Alyse Chin said the department did not have a report. A new Chief of Staff has been hired.

Department of Children and Families – Dr. Stephney Springer (DCF)

Dr. Stephney Springer reported that the Appropriations Budget has restored funding to the contract that was once funded under the Juvenile Justice Outreach line. Also, the department has two budget options to expand the use of the differential response services to families in need of intensive care coordination and care coordination for families that come to the department in need of behavioral health services. The department is waiting for the budget to be finalized. There will also be a restoration of funding for the Juvenile Review Boards.

Judicial Branch – Barbara Lanza (Jud)

Barbara Lanza reported that there is no update. The REGIONS residential program for adolescent girls has been released. The information is on the Judiciary Website. The other RFP for the REGIONS secure program is still pending.

Department of Developmental Services - Kathryn Rock-Burns (DDS)

Katie Rock-Burns reported on the Step-down unit that opened in late February. It is at capacity with five (5) beds available and they already had one successful discharge. Every individual in the Step-down unit is being supported with the exception of one individual that was newly admitted last week but is already engaged with a provider as far as discharge planning. So far the program is fairly successful. The Director of Clinical Services is working with a small team from the method department to track certain metrics to look at what is happening with these individuals.

State Department of Education- Charlene Russell-Tucker (SDE)

No report was given due to the absence of Charlene Russell-Tucker.

Department of Social Services-Bill Halsey (DSS)

Bill Halsey reported that effective May 1, 2019 there was a rate increase for private PRTFs because of the level of acuity they experienced. At the Operations Committee earlier in the month, a number of items were discussed: IICAPS, ECCs, tele-health (providers already identified). There needs to be a meeting with CMS to walk through the tele-health model. The internal plan for a live tele-health target date is July 1, 2019 but the State Plan Amendment needs to go through first. The department is also working on the *Integrated Care for Kids* (InCK) grant (delivery model for children and pregnant women) which they are applying with Clifford Beers in New Haven. CMS wants them to adopt an Alternative Payment Model (to pay for fidelity wrap around care, intensive care coordination). Applying for this grant is due on June 10, 2019. Announcements will come out late Fall if Connecticut is selected as one of the eight awardees to participate in this seven (7) year grant plus two (2) years to plan for the implementation.

Rod Winstead (DSS) said that the department is still aware of significant issues with **Non-Emergency Medical Transportation services (NEMT)**. The Administrative Service Organization (ASO), Veyo, will not address any MAPOC or BHPOC meetings until a pending lawsuit is resolved or settled- per Representative Abercrombie and a legal opinion from LCO. He said that Connecticut is committed to keeping NEMT in the state and the agency will continue to help improve the program for its Medicaid population. Previous to the Council meeting, Rod submitted the Monthly DSS Client Report on NEMT to the Council (posted on the BHPOC Website). Also, he cited the presentation that Josh Komenda (President-Veyo) gave last month to MAPOC (see below and posted on the BHPOC-Coordination of Care Webpage).



MAPOC4-12-19Veyo-
Total Transit Update.

Committee Reports:

Coordination of Care: - Rep. Jonathan Steinberg, Co-Chair, Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Co-Chair, Kelly Phenix, Co-Chair, Benita Toussaint, Co-Chair

Co-Chair Janine Sullivan Wiley reported that the next meeting will be on May 22, 2019 at 1:00 PM in 1E LOB in Hartford where NEMT and follow-up discussions on what constitutes a stranded ride and on the Spend-down process will take place. Also, committee leadership process will be discussed.

Child/Adolescent Quality, Access & Policy: – Steve Girelli and Jeff Vanderploeg, Co-Chairs

Co-Chair Dr. Steve Girelli reported that the next meeting will be on May 15, 2019 at 2:00 PM at Beacon Health Options where a presentation on Access Mental Health.

Adult Quality, Access & Policy: -Paul Acker and Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr. Co-Chairs

Co-Chair Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr. said that the May meeting was canceled and the next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2019 at 3:00 PM. If members have any suggestions for agenda items, please contact the co-chairs or BHPOC staff, David Kaplan.

Operations: – Terri DiPietro and Heather Gates, Co- Chairs

Co-Chair Heather Gates reported that at the May meeting, they discussed tele-health where they expanded and refined it greatly. They also had a follow-up on the CMMI *Integrated Care for Kids* (InCK) RFP which is Integrated Care Coordination and an alternate payment model that is a care model and is a seven (7) year project. Also, there was an update on IICAPS. The next meeting will be on Friday, September 6, 2019 at 2:30 PM in the Hartford Conference Room (third floor) at Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, CT.

Consumer and Family Advisory Council (CFAC) Update –Kelly Phenix

Kelly Phenix reported that there was a Legislative Breakfast on April 11, 2019 in the Legislative dining room off the cafeteria. It was well attended and HUSKY recipients met and greeted legislators. There was also a Spanish-speaking cohort in attendance and translation services were provided.

New Business/Meeting Announcement/Adjournment

Co-Chair Beresford Wilson thanked all guests and members for their participation in the discussions. He then asked for any other announcements or new business. Hearing none else, he announced to members that the next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 2:00 PM in **1E LOB**. A motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and Beresford adjourned the meeting at 3:53 PM.

**The next meeting date is: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 @ 2:00 PM
1E LOB.**